

THE WAR.

ARRIVAL OF THE SWIFT.

H.M.S. *Swift* arrived from Manila this afternoon. We learn that Admiral Dewey has given permission for the withdrawal of the steamers and other vessels from the river. These craft are now along-side the mouth of the river, and before any bombardment occurs the British and other foreign residents will be moved to them.

Fighting goes on daily between the rebels and the Spaniards, and for two days, commencing on the afternoon of the 1st May, a big battle was fought. The result was not known when the *Swift* left, but the rebels are reported to have made many prisoners.

The Spanish Garrison proceeds with its preparation of shoreward defences. In the city the streets bear more than ever a deserted appearance, the reported Spanish reserves in the encounters with the rebels causing the civil population to flee for shelter to the country behind the city.

THE WAR AS SEEN THROUGH SPANISH SPECTACLES.

LATEST NEWS FROM HONGKONG.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

I send you herewith a few translations of the daily *Notas* we pay 81 a month for here, as a sample of the general Spanish mind in the present circumstances. Recognizing that the Britishers have kindred blood, language, religion and customs to the Americans, the Spaniards view us from a point of antipathy, certainly latent and not so far expressed. We were glad to see the *Pipit* fly on a visit the other day. The exhibition of our flag always has a healthy effect on Spaniards, and it is a pity we do not see more of it in these waters. We should be glad to see the *Pipit*, or at least her equivalent, back again to lend us confidence in times of trouble (internal and external) such as the present; for while isolated and cut off from all regular communication we still remain subjects—and loyal ones, too—of a nation which, from a smuggled copy of your own most reliable paper, did assemble a fleet in northern waters, ready and able to combat with all combined antagonists in the Far East, should such an occasion have arisen.

Things in the north of this Island (Hainan) are at present an unknown quantity, but have been most disturbing and it is difficult to say how far the feeling of rebellion.

THE SPANISH LEGIONS WILL PARADE TRIUMPHANTLY.

The following translations from the *Notas* of the day, forwarded to our correspondent, show that it is all the more to be expected by American friends.

Hailo, May 25. The days pass, and we are sorry to say the steamer expected from Hongkong do not arrive. They are expected any moment, and by them we shall receive extensive details of the glorious battle which took place near the Tortugas Islands, where the blackguard Yankees had occasion to appreciate the valor and force of the Spanish Armies.

Those traitorous people have already said that it is all the more to be expected by American friends. The Spaniards are fighting against the traitorous people who, while feigning friendship for Spain, have been protecting them for a long time.

Spanish valor encounters no obstacles when it is a matter of saving Spanish honours. War inspires no fear in us, for from the most remote times the Iberian people are accustomed to sustain titanic strife, in which the greater the danger, the greater their valor. Thanks to it the Spanish legions will parade triumphantly all over the world, dominating a great part of it. The Spanish people, when they find themselves engaged in what to other people appears an invincible (sic) war, will show the world what they are worth.

Like other nations collapse at the first reverse of fortune, our valor increases, and it is the same to us whether we carry on one or three (sic) as we are doing at the present time, without any regard to the number of our adversaries, or the advantages they may possess over us in the strife. Spanish fight for honor, and it is a supreme aspiration; even though it be in the end a Nuncupatio or a Sanguis. The Yankee dogs will have an imperishable remembrance of the Spaniards.

Hailo, May 28. The villainous American nation, in whose breast exist citizens with fabulous fortunes, will certainly not be able to present such examples of patriotism as is being shown by the Spanish capitalists, on account of the war we are sustaining with these miserable creatures.

The charitable Marquis of Comillas, with that public spirit which distinguishes the good Spaniard, has again made patent that he cherishes for Spain, by swelling the general subscription to the war fund with a contribution of \$1,000,000—a fabulous sum to be used in this way to a nation.

(The Marquis de Comillas is the champion Government jobber of Spain and the biggest bloodsucker in the country.—*Translators*.)

Another great benefactor, Senor Arca of Barcelona, has also subscribed \$1,000,000. With such splendid donations we shall not be surprised if, in the very first moments, the national subscription should reach the incredible sum of \$100,000,000.

We feel certain the blackguard Yankees will not do the same. Let the traitorous people learn from the noble Spaniards, who give, not alone the blood, but all that he is, impelled by his insuperable love for his country.

islands to gain as complete a triumph in these waters as that obtained in the proximity of Cuba.

When it comes to show its readiness, What they should and shouldn't do: When it tells them how the Yankees Bait the Spaniards for a rise, In the price of land in Cuba, At the bidding of the Spaniards, While like blue-bottle leeches, On the insurrection most, In a district near Manhattan, Or a certain New York Street, For it goes it hot on Congress, Give McKinley such a rub, Till one longer to pass the rub, Lots of ice and one large tub, Where its superheated ardour, Or some things it doesn't know, Might be cooled, or gently lowered, To a level sort of glow.

Tell its dreams of Yankee devils, Victims ewest of Spanish sails, Blend and turn to pictured evils, Such as dove-like Weyer points, Tell the truth and shame the devil, In a way of sage and force, And it fits the matter apply, Though it is a little coarse; Yes, and so is Spanish justice, To the natives Spain controls, Giving, in this world, oppressions, In the next world, blessings; What a city Philip the proxy, And the Saturday Review, Can't be made to live in Cuba, As the Cubans have to do?

Subscription lists will be found at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, at Messrs Lane Crawford & Co., Kelly & Walsh, and A. S. Watson & Co.

Subscriptions will also be received by Mrs. M. Wilson Black, Lady Carrington, Mrs. S. C. Holland.

Hon. Treasurer pro tem, Hongkong, 6th June, 1898.

SUPREME COURT.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

(Before the Full Court.)

Monday, June 6.

THE *SHU Y. TSOI HUNG PO AND ANOTHER*. This was an appeal from the decision of Mr. Justice Wise, in a suit brought to recover \$5,000 money lent to defendant on a promissory note. In delivering his judgment in favour of the defendant, Mr. Justice Wise stated that it appeared to him that perjury and forgery were both, certainly on one side and perhaps on the other, and the real question for him to decide was whose account contained the lesser amount of falsehood.

Mr. Justice Wise said this was an appeal under the provisions of the Supreme Court Reconstruction Ordinance from the decision of Mr. Justice Wise given in the Original Jurisdiction of the Court, in a case by *Li Shu* against *Tso Hing Po* and *another*. Judgment was delivered on 22nd March last. The hearing of the case commenced on 17th January, 1898, and proceeded on the 18th, 19th and 20th January, and further hearing was adjourned till 7th March, when it went on continuously till 14th March, when it concluded entirely.

The notice of motion showed that appellant would move the Court that the judgment of the Court below be reversed, or in the alternative that a rehearing or new trial might be ordered. The case was only on questions of fact in the Supreme Court Reconstruction Ordinance as to the nature of the appeal which was granted by that Ordinance. It was simply that appellant was aware there was no Court of Appeal in this Ordinance, in 1873, so that the only body they could have recourse to was the Court of England. Under the provisions of the Summary Court Ordinances—under Section 41, where provision was made for appeal from the judge sitting in that Court and under Section 43, where the appeal is from the decision of the question of fact (and the appeal in the present case was only on questions of fact)—the Full Court might deal with the case solely upon evidence originally taken, or might re-examine any witnesses previously examined, or admit any further evidence. Mr. Francis then quoted several cases showing the power of the Court to do so, and pointed out several points in the evidence, by which he asserted if the evidence was carefully considered it was absolutely impossible that the statement of the defendant that they were lending money could be true. The \$5,000 was the price to be paid for the Chinese articles for the grant of the farm of the Wei Sing Leetery, besides the presents and bribery money that had to be paid to Chinese officials. Mr. Francis showed that the defendants were only able to pay by the \$5,000, and that the evidence in the case pointed to the peculiar difficulties of the defendant. He proceeded to discuss the case in detail.

PROGRESS IN CHINA.

COLLAPSE OF THE PATRIOTIC LEAGUE.

A Peking correspondence writes as follows to the *N.Y. Daily News*:

The new patriotic club of which I wrote you has come to an untimely end. It has evaporated like rain drops from an ugly black cloud, leaving nothing but an ugly blot to remind us of its existence.

It was founded on a lie; and though it enrolled some respectable names, its aim was to do no good but to make a name for itself from the first anti-foreigner.

One who read the documents, and talked with its members, there was no mistaking its spirit, but the alleged fact to which it appealed as a spur to the movement was not to be denied, without evidence. That evidence is now in hand.

The Emperor having ordered an inquiry, the Governor of Shanghai replied that on careful examination he found no truth in the report of a sacrilegious mutilation of images. The soldiers he said had not even gone into the part of the temple which contained the images.

A Shanghai missionary to whom I last week spoke of the alleged outrage promptly denounced the stories as a fiction, adding that he had just come from the place referred to; and that he had not heard a word said in regard to any occurrence of the kind.

The story was invented by some one who knew how to fire the Chinese heart. But what must we think of a patriotic association that has no better basis than a rumour? The missionaries were told that the story was a fiction, and that those who responded to the false alarm are now ashamed of having signed the paper.

Moral:—For ways that are dark, Let the light of truth be the guide. The darkest China is popular.

It is currently reported (says the *N.Y. Daily News*) that in consequence of the charges against *Tsoi Hing Po* already mentioned, the *Yankee* has immediately been removed from the list of subscribers to the *Yankee* fund, and that the *Yankee* has been given a severe rebuke.

PUT YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE.

That day Saturday, June 5, When it comes to show its readiness, What they should and shouldn't do:

When it tells them how the Yankees Bait the Spaniards for a rise, In the price of land in Cuba, At the bidding of the Spaniards, While like blue-bottle leeches, On the insurrection most, In a district near Manhattan, Or a certain New York Street, For it goes it hot on Congress, Give McKinley such a rub, Till one longer to pass the rub, Lots of ice and one large tub, Where its superheated ardour, Or some things it doesn't know, Might be cooled, or gently lowered, To a level sort of glow.

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Hon. Treasurer pro tem, Hongkong, 6th June, 1898.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

SCOTLAND & THE WORLD.

This annual competition brought out twelve couples and was concluded on 3rd inst., resulting in a win for Scotland by 10 holes. Players started on level terms, the issue being for 'honour and glory' and respect for the Club and its members. The Captain of the Club did good service for his side, fairly laying out his opponent, whereas the 1897 champion placed a very small margin to the credit of the same side. The play in a good many instances was very close, as will be gathered from the following table:

SCOTLAND. THE WORLD.

Dr. J. A. Lovison 0 Mr. O. W. May 1
Mr. G. Stewart 11 Lt. Dag Young, R.E. 0
Mr. A. S. Anton 1 Capt. R. M. M. 0
Capt. Montgomery 1 Mr. V. A. C. Haw- 0
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple 1 Rev. G. R. Vallings 0
Mr. J. Thurburn 1 Mr. C. A. Tones 0
Mr. M. Stewart 1 Mr. C. H. Grace 0
Mr. G. W. F. Play- 1
Mr. J. A. McClure 0 Mr. P. D. Morris 5
Mr. W. Taylor 3 Mr. G. Milward 0
Mr. E. F. Mackay 3 Mr. G. M. Taylor, R.N. 0
Mr. K. McK. Ross 0

PROFESSION PAIRS TOURNAMENT. This contest will be entered on at an early date, and it is hoped the contest will be a very interesting one. The whole scheme of the tournament is in the hands of the Club house for the enrolment of competitors' names. Entries close on Wednesday, the 8th inst., when the ties will be drawn.

A PLEASURABLE DAY.

Nothing could have been more perfect in its way than the excursion organized by Messrs Farmer and Harper, whose capabilities in the entering line are a recognized fact in Hongkong. It is, perhaps, to be regretted that a greater number of the swimming Hongkongites did not take advantage of the chance offered them for a cheap and pleasant Sunday outing, but I am certain that the news among their friends, and that next Sunday—for it is, I believe, the intention of the promoters to make these excursions a permanent thing so long as the hot weather lasts—there will be to use a theatrical phrase, a bumper.

The whole scheme of the excursion was only finally arranged late on Friday afternoon, so that there was but scant time for advertising, which, very probably, accounts for the sparse attendance. About 10,30, the much-expected flag-ship, the *Blackburn*, with a bumper load of passengers, was seen to be making its way down the harbour, the sailors on the *Blackburn* cheering as they passed and dipping flags to us. The *Blackburn*, because it is Sunday and the 'pioneer monkey' had gone to Church. Opposite Shaukiwan, we turned round, as the Pilot hinted that assistance awaited the daring excursionist who would brave the seething billows of *De Gaulle Point*. It was very good. The Pilot, as he told us this because it is always circling around in his little boat, and therefore, knows a thing or two concerning the bounding deep. We were very grateful to him and our prominent broker even went as far as to offer him a cup of tea. This made our little party very harmonious, because we all thought there might be a chance to make a similar deal. Book through the harbour on her triumphant way, she turned the *Tai O*, saluting the water with a salute of smoke, and then, as she bore up, she was met by a bumper load of passengers, who were all on their backs and looked themselves, others played cards, others grouped in groups and talked, while some innumerable malicious words of innuendo; and this was the order of the day, varied by occasional and not infrequent visits to a substantially supplied bar. At 1.30, a cold collation was announced as ready, and for the modest price of one dollar and a portion of the real, the same lunch was put on of free. There was enough for three or four times the number present, yet, in the end, I do not believe that the promoters had a very heavy task in carrying home the fragments. Turning the point of *De Gaulle Point*, we were met by a bumper load of passengers, who were all on their backs and looked themselves, others played cards, others grouped in groups and talked, while some innumerable malicious words of innuendo; and this was the order of the day, varied by occasional and not infrequent visits to a substantially supplied bar. At 1.30, a cold collation was announced as ready, and for the modest price of one dollar and a portion of the real, the same lunch was put on of free. There was enough for three or four times the number present, yet, in the end, I do not believe that the promoters had a very heavy task in carrying home the fragments.

At the back of Stonestown's Island, we dropped anchor and had a plunge, as least, some did. The Customs House boat came alongside and asked if we had any unlicensed goods on board. We told him that we had none, and that we were all on our backs and looked themselves, others played cards, others grouped in groups and talked, while some innumerable malicious words of innuendo; and this was the order of the day, varied by occasional and not infrequent visits to a substantially supplied bar. At 1.30, a cold collation was announced as ready, and for the modest price of one dollar and a portion of the real, the same lunch was put on of free. There was enough for three or four times the number present, yet, in the end, I do not believe that the promoters had a very heavy task in carrying home the fragments.

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THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The following reports on the Hongkong Volunteer Corps are published in the *Gazette*:

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICER, HONGKONG, IN CHINA AND HONGKONG TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER COMMANDING THE GOVERNMENT, HONGKONG.

Head Quarter Office, Hongkong, 30th April, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to enclose the Commandant's report of the training of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for the season 1897-98.

2.—I made the annual inspection of the Corps on the 14th inst., when the men turned out well and looked healthy and fit for work; with one exception they performed their drill on the uneven parade ground in a satisfactory manner.

3.—The 7-pr. guns, Maxims, Arms, and equipment appear to be in a serviceable condition, but I understand from the Commandant's report that the carbines are old and worn out. I have already communicated with the Colonial Government on this subject and recommended that the Corps be re-armed with either the .303 Lee-Enfield carbine or the Martini-Enfield carbine.

4.—I observe, with great pleasure, that Gun practice with the Field Battery and Maxim Gun has been made a regular feature, and I have already communicated with the Colonial Government on this subject and recommended that the Corps be re-armed with either the .303 Lee-Enfield carbine or the Martini-Enfield carbine.

5.—The annual camp of instruction at Stonestown's Island was again well attended, and the Commandant's report shows that the practical duties of outpost, reconnaissance, field firing, etc., were carried out with great success, in addition to which the nine days' outing is greatly appreciated by all ranks and great help in recruiting and engendering a soldierly spirit.

6.—Several men were absent from the general inspection parade.

7.—I recognize the zeal and energy of Major Sir John Carrington, and am glad to find that he is so well supported by the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers under his command in all that concerns the welfare of the Corps; in fact, the small number of men in the field is a credit to be lodged against the Hongkong Volunteers, a shortcoming which, I trust, all ranks will do their best to remedy. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. BLAKE, Major-General.

THE COMMANDANT, HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

TO THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL (A) AND CHIEF STAFF OFFICER, CHINA.

Volunteer Head Quarters, Hongkong, 18th April, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward herewith the documents mentioned in the margin relating to the training of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for the season 1897-98. The whole scheme of the excursion was only finally arranged late on Friday afternoon, so that there was but scant time for advertising, which, very probably, accounts for the sparse attendance.

2.—A comparison of Endeavour No. 9 with the corresponding document for the training of 1896-97 shows that the total number of men in the Corps has increased from 190 to 210, and that the number of ranks at the former date. This is the greatest strength to which the Corps has yet attained since its re-organization in 1893.

3.—During the season 4 members have died, 1 being killed in action, and 3 being killed in action. The strength, and 32 have resigned. Of the resigning members 20 have left the Corps, and 3 have been discharged on medical certificate; 65 new members have been enrolled.

4.—The Field Battery now numbers 120, as compared with an establishment of 80 as fixed by the existing regulations of the Corps.

5.—The 'A' Machine Gun Company has, I believe for the first time, been recruited up to its full strength, and now numbers 81 of all ranks.

6.—The establishment of the Corps makes provision for three Machine Gun Companies, and the requisite guns for them all are in stock. It was hoped that during the season another company might have been formed, but no steps have been taken in this direction for two reasons; first, because it was thought desirable to wait the coming into force of the proposed new regulations, and, secondly, because the local Government has repeatedly and emphatically expressed its desire that no expenditure should be made in excess of the sum voted for the Volunteers.

7.—Some months ago a small Drum and Fifa Band, consisting of 22 enrolled members of the Corps and 1 unenrolled boy, was formed, principally through the exertions of Battery Sergeant-Major Duncan and Sergeant-Drummer Hayward. The Band has attained a fair degree of proficiency, and its performances are highly appreciated by the members of the Corps.

8.—During the season the question of the formation of a small Engineer Company of the Corps has been under consideration, but a final decision has not yet been reached.

9.—There have been several changes among the Officers of the Corps during the season.

10.—His Excellency Sir W. Robinson, C.B., Honorary Colonel of the Corps, left the colony and vacated his appointment on the 1st February, 1898.

11.—In the Field Battery Capt. J. McCallum, who had been placed on the Supernumerary List, resigned his commission on the 18th February, 1898, on being posted to the Battery of Volunteer Artillery in Scotland.

12.—This Officer, whose service dates as far back as May, 1878, has done much good work for the Corps. Lieutenant A. Chapman was promoted Captain to command the Field Battery, and his resignation was placed on the Supernumerary List.

13.—On the 23rd November, 1897, Lieutenant W. K. Wyllie died, under slightly extraordinary circumstances, to the great regret of all ranks of the Corps. The vacancy caused by his death was filled on the 3rd February, 1898, by the appointment of Mr. M. W. Wade to Lieutenant.

14.—Lieutenant M. R. Denison, who was, on the 21st November, 1897, promoted Captain, was killed in action on the 14th March, 1898, as being absent without leave.

15.—In the 'A' Machine Gun Company Sergeant E. D. Sanders was gazetted C.B. on the 12th July, 1897, in succession to Captain C. M. Anderson, resigned, and Sergeant G. C. Patterson was gazetted Lieutenant on the 30th April, 1897, in succession to Lieutenant A. McCallum, resigned.

16.—The discipline of the Corps has been uniformly good throughout the season.

17.—The annual drill and musketry drill have been well attended.

18.—The annual camp of instruction at Stonestown's Island was again well attended, and the Commandant's report shows that the practical duties of outpost, reconnaissance, field firing, etc., were carried out with great success, in addition to which the nine days' outing is greatly appreciated by all ranks and great help in recruiting and engendering a soldierly spirit.

19.—Several men were absent from the general inspection parade.

lead the figures for the two units are as follows:—
Field Battery—
74 have become efficient with more than 40 drills.
21 have become efficient with less than 40 drills.
25 are non-efficient.

'A' Machine Gun Company—
20 have become efficient with more than 40 drills.
12 have become efficient with less than 40 drills.
13 are non-efficient.

51 of the 25 non-efficient in the case of the Field Battery, 2 are absent from the colony on leave, 7 are absent from the colony without leave, 4 are recruits who have not had sufficient time since joining to complete their drill, and the remaining 8, although not completed the requisite number of drills.

In the case of the 13 non-efficient of the 'A' Machine Gun Company, 10 are absent from the colony on leave, 2 are absent from the colony without leave, 2 are recruits who have not had sufficient time since joining to complete their drill, and the remaining 1, although not completed the requisite number of drills.

9.—In October, 1897, a camp of instruction was held under canvas during a period of nine days at Stonestown's Island. The use of the Natural Range of the 64-pounder Gun Battery, and of the depressing range-finding instruments on the island was kindly lent by the Naval and Military Authorities. The Camp was well attended and may be described as successful in every way. To its success I attribute in great measure the success in recruiting which prevented the Corps from attaining a high standard of efficiency—a standard which, I feel sure, is the aim of all who are connected with it. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. BLAKE, Major-General.

PEKING NOTES.

Peking, May 25.

THE ROYAL GUESTS.

has come and gone. A great sense of relief pervades the mandarin circle, the official class, this unwelcome visit has been a source of anxiety and annoyance. They did not know what it meant and could not believe it was purely friendly. The Emperor complied with all that the German Legation requested, and the German Legation complied with all that the Emperor requested. Prince Henry seems to have enjoyed himself to the full in the enormous capital. A film was arranged for him at the Yellow Temple by the Emperor's order, and a number of Ministers and Sir Robert Hart, who by the Prince's request stood next himself on one side, and the Austrian Minister on the other. Lady Macdonald gave.

A BALL IN THE HONOUR of the British Legation, last Tuesday evening, which was a very enjoyable affair in spite of the heat. The Chinese authorities of the railroad took down the 'Ting' erected at the station at Mochiupo immediately after his arrival and did not intend him to have the least discomfort. A leading official assured me that he could not have been so comfortable.

MEASLES HAS BROKEN OUT among the foreign community here, imported very likely from Tientsin. Two of Mr. Smollett Campbell's children are down with the disease, and the wife of a Customs compounder is daily expecting their youngsters to grow a crop of red blossoms.

POLITICAL NEWS IS SCARCER. Prince Kung is reported as recovering, and the rumour is so strong that his illness was in a large manner due to his waiting to avoid the honours of the capital to Prince Henry. This is not true, however, as Prince Kung was very low at one time, and even now he is not up.

